

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF INDIANA)
BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY, INCORPORATED,)
D/B/A AMERITECH INDIANA PURSUANT TO)
I.C. 8-1-2-61 FOR A THREE-PHASE PROCESS FOR)
COMMISSION REVIEW OF VARIOUS)
SUBMISSIONS OF AMERITECH INDIANA TO)
SHOW COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 271(C) OF)
THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)

FILED

MAY 18 2000

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

CAUSE NO. 41657

You are hereby notified that on this date, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has caused the following entry to be made:

On February 2, 2000, Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Incorporated d/b/a Ameritech Indiana filed pursuant to I.C. 8-1-2-61 and Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 a petition requesting that the Commission investigate various submissions of Ameritech Indiana showing compliance with Section 271(c) of TA 96. Ameritech Indiana requested that the first phase of this investigation involve a third party test of Ameritech's Operating Support Systems.

On Friday, April 14, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. EST in Room TC10 of the Indiana Government Center South, Indianapolis, Indiana, an attorneys' conference was held at which time the Commission notified all parties as to the procedures by which phase I of this proceeding will be commenced.

On April 24, 2000, the Presiding officers issued a docket entry stating that in order to take advantage of the economies of the 271 proceedings in other Ameritech states, the Commission is considering hiring Mr. John Kern to be the facilitator of the collaborative process throughout this proceeding. Mr. Kern would not serve as advisory to the Commission in his role as facilitator. The Commission still plans on pursuing the RFP proposal to select a project administrator who will serve as surrogate staff and be advisory in nature. The Commission would not anticipate allowing the parties to participate in the RFP process to select this project administrator.

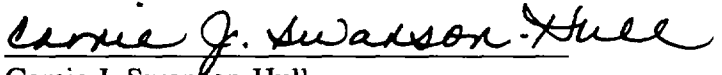
The parties were given until May 1, 2000 to file their responses to the Commission's proposal and until May 8, 2000 to file any replies to the responses. In addition to the topics to be included in those comments that were discussed at the attorneys' conference, the Parties were instructed to include whether they had any objections with regard to the selection of Mr. Kern as facilitator. The Commission is in receipt of those comments and there were no objections to hiring Mr. Kern as the facilitator for this proceeding and therefore, we find Mr. Kern should be hired and Ameritech Indiana should arrange, at its sole expense, for the retention of Mr. Kern. A copy of the contract should be submitted to the Commission for approval.

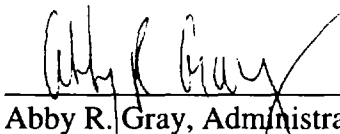
Further, at the Attorneys' conference, the parties were put on notice that the presiding officers would have questions of Ameritech Indiana regarding the proposed process contained in the summary of the Section 271 filing. In the Reply comments filed by Ameritech Indiana on May 8, 2000, Ameritech Indiana requested that the Commission schedule a time for Mr. Terry Appenzeller of Ameritech to do a presentation on the proposed process, with an opportunity for questions and answers with Commissioners, IURC staff and other parties.

The presiding officers find that Ameritech Indiana's request in this regard be granted. The informational meeting should be held on June 16, 2000 at 10 a.m. in Room TC10 of the Indiana Government Center South, 302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, Indiana. Since the Commission has chosen Mr. John Kern as the facilitator in this case, we further find that Mr. Kern should be present and discuss the processes and approaches that other Ameritech states are using.

The record will be opened at the Preliminary Hearing on June 8, 2000 and continued to the informational meeting. Further, the informational meeting will be posted in accordance with the Indiana Open Door Law so that all Commissioners and staff may attend. Any party desiring to present a different process or comment on Ameritech's presentation should have their representative(s) available at the informational meeting.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


Camie J. Swanson-Hull,
Commissioner


Abby R. Gray, Administrative Law Judge


Date


Joseph M. Sutherland, Secretary to the Commission